19 October 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR:
OSCOL

SUBJECT   : Your Draft OSCOL Recommendations

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        Here are my comments on your draft recommendations for our
committee. They are keyed to your penciled-in numbers that were on
my copies.   will represent me at Friday's meeting and
and can expand on our views. He has been engaged in open source
collection for many years and will be able to make a thoughtful
contribution to the discussion.

        1. OSCOL Representation in Community Affairs. Okay as   25X1A
stated. You know my views from our conversation Tuesday.

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3. Expanding Community Use of LC/FRD. I don't know how anyone can "ensure" that the FRD charter is understood. Bill Dodge could publicize it as easily as anyone.

4. Consolidated Abstracting Survey. We think that before making this recommendation we must discuss among ourselves a bit more whether achieving agreement on standard specifications for an abstract is a practicable possibility. If this would solve the problems of duplication in the abstract area, I would be all for it.

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listing of each individual abstract, we cannot support this recommendation. It is impractical. If you mean a general directory describing who is doing what from what sources, we would have no objection.

5. Data Base for Non-S&T Abstracts. This sounds like you are talking about computerizing all subtextual items outside the S&T field. On the face of it, this is such an enormous undertaking that it is impractical. If you mean even a central index of all such material, you still face a prodigious task. Not a practical recommendation.

6. Internetting Library Facilities. I would like to see OCR's comments on this recommendation. I think it would be useful to develop a directory of library research facilities as an aid to analysts and researchers.

7. Acquisition: Library of Congress: If by expansion of support services you are talking about encouraging offices to utilize more heavily FRD's contract capabilities, this would be okay. If you mean something else, we need a clearer picture. I'd like OCR's views.

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10. Support to the Business and Technical Communities. While the Admiral has indicated that he wants to place information into the public realm, it is my impression that he wants to do this as a by-product of existing intelligence collection. I question whether it is a Community responsibility to provide tailored products for non-governmental users.

11. HRC Assistance. A FOCUS type examination of procurement practices is an excellent idea, worthy of a separate recommendation.

I think that we should consider recommending that a contractor formulate a directory of what open source material is being explored, where, in what form, by whom, and for what purposes. It probably should be in a computer base. This would be an aid to analysts as well as collectors.

We should not make recommendations piecemeal or until we have heard the outcome of [   ] study on areas of duplication and [   ] study on the analysts' view as to specific requirements for open source collection which presently are not being met. These two areas are at the heart of our investigation. It puts the cart before the horse to make recommendations before we have received the research on which they should be based.

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cc: Dr. William Dodge, Library of Congress

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